



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 1744**

**PATENT**  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 08364.0022-00000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Neil PORTER et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1744
	)	
Application No.: 09/890,855	)	Examiner: William H. Beisner
	)	
Filed: October 31, 2001	)	Confirmation No.: 8015
	)	
For: APPARATUS FOR PRESERVING	)	<b>Mail Stop AF</b>
MICROORGANISMS	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the final Office Action mailed June 3, 2004 (the "Office Action"), Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks. The period for reply having been extended for one month by a request for extension of time and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, this reply is due by October 3, 2004, and is timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.